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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. Section 127A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsections (c) through (e) to read as  
3 follows:

4       "(c) The [~~director~~] administrator may, from funds allotted  
5 therefor, employ technical, clerical, administrative, and other  
6 personnel and make such expenditures as may be necessary.

7       (d) The [~~director~~] administrator shall coordinate the  
8 activities of the agency with all county emergency management  
9 agencies, other state agencies, other states, or federal  
10 agencies involved in emergency management activities, and all  
11 organizations for emergency management within the State, whether  
12 public or private, and shall maintain liaison and cooperate with  
13 all county emergency management agencies, other state agencies,  
14 other states, or federal agencies involved in emergency  
15 management activities as provided in this chapter.

16       (e) The agency shall perform emergency management  
17 functions within the territorial limits of the State[, support



~~county emergency management agencies as requested; coordinate all resource support to the counties; ensure that emergency management plans across the State are coordinated with each other and other state, federal, and local organizations; oversee and coordinate the statewide outdoor siren warning system; monitor and issue alerts and warnings; and coordinate emergency and disaster response and recovery activities].~~ In performing its duties, the agency shall:

- (1) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management plan, which shall be integrated into and coordinated with the emergency management plans of the federal government. The plan shall be integrated by a continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency management program. The plan must contain provisions to ensure that the State is prepared for emergencies and minor, major, and catastrophic disasters. The agency shall work closely with agencies and organizations with emergency management responsibilities in preparing and maintaining the plan;



- 1        (2) Assign lead and support responsibilities to state  
2        agencies and personnel for emergency functions and  
3        other support activities;
- 4        (3) Adopt standards and requirements for county emergency  
5        management plans. The standards and requirements must  
6        ensure that county plans are coordinated and  
7        consistent with the state comprehensive emergency  
8        management plan;
- 9        (4) Make recommendations to the legislature, building code  
10       organizations, and counties for zoning, building, and  
11       other land use controls; and other preparedness,  
12       prevention, and mitigation measures designed to  
13       eliminate emergencies or reduce their impact;
- 14       (5) Anticipate trends and promote innovations that will  
15       enhance the emergency management system;
- 16       (6) Institute statewide public awareness programs. This  
17       shall include intensive public educational campaigns  
18       on emergency preparedness issues, including but not  
19       limited to the personal responsibility of individual  
20       citizens to be self-sufficient for up to fourteen days  
21       following a natural or human-caused disaster;



- 1        (7) Coordinate federal, state, and local emergency  
2        management activities and take all other steps,  
3        including the partial or full mobilization of  
4        emergency management forces and organizations in  
5        advance of an actual emergency, to ensure the  
6        availability of adequately trained and equipped forces  
7        of emergency management personnel before, during, and  
8        after emergencies and disasters;
- 9        (8) Implement training programs to improve the ability of  
10       state and local emergency management personnel to  
11       prepare and implement emergency management plans and  
12       programs. This shall include a continuous training  
13       program for agencies and individuals that will be  
14       called on to perform key roles in state and local  
15       post-disaster response and recovery efforts and for  
16       local government personnel on federal and state post-  
17       disaster response and recovery strategies and  
18       procedures;
- 19       (9) Adopt standards and requirements for state agency  
20       emergency operating procedures and periodically review  
21       emergency operating procedures of state agencies and



1 recommend revisions as needed to ensure consistency  
2 with the state comprehensive emergency management plan  
3 and program; and

4 (10) Coordinate, in advance whenever possible, such  
5 executive orders, proclamations, and rules for  
6 issuance by the governor as are necessary or  
7 appropriate for coping with emergencies and  
8 disasters."

9 SECTION 2. Section 127A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by amending subsection (i) to read as follows:

11 "(i) Each county, under the mayor's direction, shall  
12 coordinate, develop, and implement ~~[an]~~ a comprehensive  
13 emergency ~~[operations]~~ management plan for the county~~[-]~~ and  
14 submit annual reports to the administrator on the status and  
15 updates of the plan."

16 SECTION 3. Section 127A-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "§127A-6 Emergency management reserve corps. (a) The  
19 ~~[direetor]~~ administrator may establish an emergency management  
20 reserve corps comprising trained specialists to support state



1 and county emergency ~~[or]~~, disaster, or day to day requirements.

2 The emergency management reserve corps may include:

3 (1) Any employee of the State or county;

4 (2) Any employee hired specifically for staffing during  
5 emergency, disaster, or day to day periods and  
6 exercises who shall be hired and compensated without  
7 regard to chapters 76, 78, and 88; and

8 (3) Any volunteer,

9 who shall be detailed in accordance with this chapter.

10 Emergency management reserve corps positions shall be authorized  
11 and managed by the agency and do not need the approval of the  
12 governor.

13 (b) The emergency management reserve corps shall support  
14 state emergency or disaster requirements and, if requested by a  
15 county emergency management agency, supplement the county  
16 emergency management agency staff. The emergency management  
17 reserve corps may be mobilized during, or in advance of,  
18 emergencies or disasters, or for emergency management ~~[exercises~~  
19 ~~and training events.]~~ day to day activities. Emergency  
20 management reserve corps members shall attend a minimum of ~~[four~~  
21 ~~days]~~ forty hours of paid ~~[training]~~ activities per year."



SECTION 4. Section 127A-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**"§127A-16 Major disaster fund.** (a) The ~~[director]~~  
administrator shall submit requests to the legislature to appropriate from the general revenues of the State sufficient moneys as may be necessary for expenditure by or under the direction of the governor for immediate relief in response to an emergency or disaster in any part of the State; provided that:

(1) The governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency;

(2) The governor may not expend in excess of ~~[\$5,000,000]~~  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for immediate relief as a result of any single emergency or disaster; and

(3) In addition to the funds in paragraph (2), an additional \$5,000,000 may be made available solely for the purpose of matching federal disaster relief funds when these funds become available to the State following a presidential disaster declaration.

In expending the moneys, the governor may allot any portion thereof to any agency, office, or employee of the State or a county for the most efficient relief for the population.



1 Notwithstanding this subsection, the only exception to  
2 paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) is that the ~~[director]~~  
3 administrator may use up to [\$100,000] \$\_\_\_\_\_ per year to  
4 support the emergency management reserve corps ~~[training]~~.

5 (b) No later than ~~[one-month]~~ sixty days after any  
6 allotment by the governor or the expenditure of any fund moneys,  
7 the ~~[director]~~ administrator shall report to the legislature on  
8 the purpose of the allotment or expenditure.

9 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), federal  
10 reimbursement moneys for disaster relief shall be deemed to be  
11 trust moneys and may be deposited into a trust account with and  
12 under the control of the ~~[department of defense.]~~ Hawaii  
13 emergency management agency. These moneys and any interest  
14 earned thereon shall be used for the purpose identified in  
15 subsection (a) and shall not lapse to the general fund.

16 (d) In cases in which the department of education expends  
17 the funds appropriated to the department for purposes deemed to  
18 be reimbursable by federal reimbursement moneys for disaster  
19 relief, the federal reimbursement moneys shall not lapse to the  
20 general fund and shall be credited directly to the department of  
21 education without regard to whether the original appropriation





1 has lapsed. Such funds shall carry over in accordance with  
2 section 37-41.5(c).

3 (e) Any unspent funding under \$2,500,000 will be rolled  
4 over to the next fiscal year to support future emergencies and  
5 disasters."

6 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Emergency Management

**Description:**

Improves the effectiveness of the State Emergency Management Program through modifications and additions to chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Takes effect 7/1/2050. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

